

Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Earl Blumenauer (OR-03) issued the following statement in response to passage of H.J. Res. 37, which disapproves the FCC's network neutrality rules with limited debate and no opportunity for amendments:

"The Internet was designed to be an open medium, and today it is one of the most powerful tools that regular Americans have in our economy and our democracy. Yet my Republican colleagues have rammed through a resolution that would allow huge corporations to set up a discriminatory system that undermines fair access for the sake of profit.

"This attack throws into question whether innovation will be allowed to flourish on the Internet. It would slow economic growth by allowing established companies to shut out new competition, and it would put the power to choose which content Americans can access more firmly in the grasp of corporate interests.

"Maintaining a free and open Internet is critical to a vibrant democracy and economic development. I hope that my colleagues will join me in protecting the free and open Internet to strengthen our economy and create jobs."